

Congress Grants Wilson Authority to Take Over All Wire Systems

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BASTILE DAY OF BE CELEBRATED TODAY OVER ALL AMERICA

THE NATIONAL HOLIDAY OF
FRANCE TO BE HONORED
BY WESTERN REPUBLIC

WILSON CABLES MESSAGE

America Greeted France on this Day
Of Stirring Memories with Heart
Full of Warm Friendship and
Devotion to Cause of Liberty.

Washington, July 13.—Bastille Day will be celebrated tomorrow (Sunday) by America in behalf of the heroic part France is playing in the defense of liberty of the world. President Wilson today ordered that the French flag be displayed over all public buildings and ships at home and abroad, and had a special flagstaff placed on the White House to bear the national ensign of France beside the Stars and Stripes.

Tonight the President sent the following message to President Poincare:

"America greets France on this day of stirring memories with a heart full of warm friendship and of devotion to the great cause in which two peoples are now so happily united. July 14, like our own July 4, has taken on new significance not only for France but for the world. As France celebrated her Fourth of July, so do we celebrate her 14th, keenly conscious of a comradeship of arms and purposes of which we are deeply proud.

Sea Seems Narrow.

"The sea seems very narrow today, France is so close a neighbor to the United States that it is being fought to save ourselves from intolerable things, but is also being fought to save mankind. We extend our hands to each other, to the great peoples with whom we are associated and to the peoples everywhere who love right and justice as things beyond price; and we consecrate ourselves once more to the noble enterprise of peace and justice, releasing the great conceptions that have lifted France and America high among the Free peoples of the world.

The French flag flies today from the staff of the White House, and America is happy to honor that flag."

Daniels to New York.

Secretary Daniels has been designated to attend the Bastille day meeting at New York tomorrow evening as the president's personal representative. The British and French ambassadors will be among the speakers.

Greetings of American labor to the working men of France were sent tonight by Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, in a message to L. Jouxhaux at Paris. Mr. Gompers expressed regret that the invitation to send delegates to the labor congress at Limoges, France, July 15, was received too late for its acceptance, and he concluded:

"Permit me to express through you to the workers of France the good will and fraternity of the workers of America. We are ready to fight shoulder to shoulder with the men of France and the other allied countries."

AMERICAN WOUNDED ARRIVING IN LONDON

London, July 13.—American wounded are now arriving in London in considerable numbers from the sections of France where the Americans are brigaded with the British.

Report Against Atchafalaya.

Washington, July 13.—An adverse report from army engineers on the proposed improvement of the Atchafalaya river and its tributaries in Louisiana was submitted to the house today.

WEATHER FORECAST

Oklahoma—Sunday and Monday generally fair; not much change in temperature.
East Texas and West Texas—Sunday and Monday generally fair.

Washington, July 13.—Weather bureau predictions for the week beginning Monday, are:

West Gulf States: Somewhat warmer Monday and nearly normal temperature thereafter.

No precipitation of any consequence except occasional scattered thunder showers.

Upper Mississippi and Lower Missouri: Fair, although occasional local showers are probable in Missouri Valley. Nearly normal temperatures except that they will be somewhat low early in week in upper Mississippi Valley.

Germany Was Swindled In Rumania Deal Declares Herr Von Graefe of the Reichstag

Amsterdam, July 13.—"One or two more such peace treaties and we are lost," exclaims Herr Von Graefe, a Conservative member of the reichstag, in a fierce indictment of former Foreign Secretary Von Kuehlmann's "no indemnity, no annexations" peace treaty of Bucharest, Rumania. The article, which is published in the Pan-German Deutsches Zeitung, develops four points, as follows:

"First—Austria-Hungary has received by frontier rectifications the share of the most valuable Rumania territory and not our enemies but we have to shoulder our billions of war debt.

Second—The petroleum agreement is an absolute swindle. By it the banks profit, but not

the German people, who will have to pay dearly for their oil.

"Third—We get Rumanian grain, but at usury prices, of which the Rumanian treasury is sure to grab the main part by way of export duties; so it is we who pay an indemnity to Rumania.

"Fourth—The dynastic question and the position of Jews in Rumania are dealt with on the basis of the Berlin treaty of 1878, when self-determination and rights and non-interference in international affairs of conquered states had not been invented.

The writer declared the German people had been sadly humbugged and that when their eyes are opened they will find the man who drafted the Rumanian treaty.

GROCCERS' CHARGES IN EXCESS OF FAIRNESS

THIS IS CONDITION AT OKLAHOMA CITY—PRICES ARE GIVEN.

Oklahoma City, July 13.—Certain grocers had not lowered their prices yesterday in accord with those set by the Oklahoma county fair price fixing committee and representatives of leading retail grocery establishments, who met at the call of Roy D. Stone, secretary of the state fair price committee, when reductions were made in the price of foodstuffs, to become effective at once. Other grocers, however, are still charging prices somewhat lower than those quoted by the committee.

The committee will furnish the newspapers with the state with the new price list so that there may be no profiteering on the part of any dealer. The state committee has already been instrumental in lowering the wholesalers' price to the retailers.

Many Articles Reduced.

Among the wheat substitutes, white corn meal has been priced at 5 3-4 cents a pound and rice flour reduced 1 1-2 cents a pound. Beans, cheese, hams, and bacon were also reduced in price.

The new price for fresh eggs is 38 cents a dozen, while some grocers are still charging 40 cents. Pinto beans, which are listed at 11 cents are sold for 15 cents at some stores. The new price for white corn meal is 5 3-4 cents a pound, while some stores sell it for as high as 6 1-2 cents.

Lard, quoted at 34 1-2 cents a pound ranges in price at the stores from 33 to 40 cents. Breakfast bacon, listed at 55 cents, is sold for 60 cents.

Navy beans are priced at 17 cents, but also sell for 18 cents a pound. Lima beans are 18 cents a pound. Butter is priced at 48 cents a pound. Country butter, when obtainable, sells for as high as 50 cents at some stores and creamery butter is being sold as low as 43 cents. Sugar is quoted at 9 3-4 cents a pound and sells for 9 1-2 and 10 cents at various places. Corn sugar is sold for 8 1-2 cents.

Official Prices.

Official prices quoted on other foodstuffs are as follows: 16-ounce loaf white bread, 10 cents; 24-ounce loaf, 15 cents; 6-pound sacks of flour, 43 cents; 12-pound sacks, 83 cents; 25 cents; 20 packages of rolled oats, 25 cents; Oleomargarine 30 and 36 cents and dry salt meats 23 and 33 cents a pound.

R. D. Stone, assistant food administrator in charge of the fair price division, announced yesterday that the wholesale price of sugar is to be raised. Sugar has been selling at wholesale in Oklahoma City at \$8.37 for 100 pounds. Hereafter wholesalers will pay \$8.50 for sugar from New Orleans and \$8.59 for sugar from New York.

Texas Leaguer Goes North.

Minneapolis, Minn., July 13.—Shortstop "Billy" Patterson of the Dallas team of the Texas league today was purchased by Minneapolis of the American Association.

Ranger Well Making 7,000 Barrel

According to telegrams received yesterday the Humble well, on the Jones farm at Ranger, has been drilled deeper, and is making 7,000 barrels daily, and the Slayden well of the Prairie Oil and Gas Company has increased 5,000 barrels daily. This brings the total daily Ranger production to 20,000 barrels.

VON HERTLING SPEECH ON BELGIUM WEAK

LAST TALK BEFORE HIS
DOWNFALL IS BELIEF OF
FRENCH PREMIER.

Paris, July 13.—(Havas Agency) Count von Hertling's speech in the reichstag last Thursday, says Le Matin, was one of the most awkward attempts of its kind. L'Homme Libre, Premier Clemenceau's organ, writing in a similar vein, wonders if it is not the German chancellor's last speech before his downfall.

Copenhagen, July 13.—A German official telegram received here today says:

"With regard to the statement made on Thursday by the imperial chancellor in the main committee of the reichstag regarding Belgium, a view has spread among the public which may give rise to misunderstanding. We are, therefore, giving in full that part of the chancellor's speech. He said:

"The present possession of Belgium only means that we have a pawn for future negotiations. We have no intention to keep Belgium in any form whatever."

"By the expression 'pawn' I meant that one does not intend to keep what one has in one's hand as a pawn if negotiations bring a favorable result."

TWO ARMY "NON-COMS" TO U. S. PENITENTIARY

ONE 30 YEARS, ONE 99 YEARS
FOR THEIR DISLOYALTY
TO AMERICA.

San Antonio, Texas, July 13.—Band Sergeant Oscar Biermann, convicted at Camp Travis of disloyalty was sentenced today to life imprisonment. The reviewing officer reduced the term to 30 years, it was announced at the camp. Biermann was a band sergeant for more than twenty years and was well known in the army. It was proven that he had made disloyal remarks, had once refused to play "The Star Spangled Banner" at a concert, and had played a German air, "Kaiser Frederick," at guard mount at Ft. Sam Houston.

The sentence of 99 years in prison returned by a court martial at El Paso against Corporal John C. A. Kramer, C. Company, Twenty-first machine gun battalion, has been approved by Major General Holbrook, commander, Kramer was found guilty of writing in a letter: "I am with my whole heart for Germany and I hope Germany will win."

ITALIANS MAKE BIG GAIN IN ALBANIA, IS REPORT BY GEN. MARCH

Washington, July 12.—Activities along the various fronts have been of minor character during the last week, General March said today in a review of military events.

The most striking advance has been in Albania, where, aided by British and Italian monitors operating from the sea, a general advance of a crescent-shaped sector of 80 miles in length has been made, the advance being 22 miles at its deepest point. The former crescent into the allied line there has been wiped out and a straight front substituted.

The advance was carried out largely by Italian troops, General March said, but they were assisted on the right flank by French.

FIRST ARDMORE BOY WOUNDED IN ACTION

NURSE WRITES CONDITION
OF LAWRENCE OTEY, JUNE
21, WAS IMPROVING.

DETAILS ARE LACKING

No Information Given Regarding
Nature of Wounds—Brother of
Mrs. Roy M. Johnson—Enlisted
In Marine Corps Last Year.

Mrs. Roy M. Johnson received a letter yesterday from a nurse in a base hospital in France notifying her of the condition of her brother, Lawrence Otey, who had been wounded in action. The letter bore date of June 21 and gave no information as to when or how he was wounded, only stating that his condition was improving.

Lawrence Otey is well known in Ardmore, having made his home here for several years, and is so far as known the first Ardmore boy to have been wounded in action. He enlisted with the marines last year and has been in active service since February. Another brother of Mrs. Johnson, George Otey, is first sergeant of E Company, 11th regiment, U. S. Engineers, and is now at an eastern port of embarkation.

RAIN AIDS AMERICANS TO STRENGTHEN LINES

MARNE FIELD IS STICKY
WITH MUD—HUN GUNS
QUIET.

(By the Associated Press)
With the American Army in France, July 13.—On the fronts in the Marne district held by American troops, last night was the quietest of any since the Germans in their step southward were stopped at the north bank of the stream.

In some sections not a single German shell came over, while in others the artillery fire was far below normal.

It has rained every day for the last four days in this region, with the result that fields and roads are sticky and unfavorable for marching or fighting. This fact may have had something to do with holding back the expected German offensive.

At the same time the weather has worked to the advantage of the Americans, for during the rainy period they have been able to strengthen still further their dispositions of forces and their defenses.

U. S. GIVES CHINA CONTRACT TO BUILD FOUR CARGO VESSELS

Washington, July 13.—China has been added to the list of nations building merchant ships to help defeat Germany. The shipping board today awarded to the Chinese government yard at Shanghai contracts for four cargo vessels of 10,000 tons each, and took options for the building of 80,000 more tons.

The entire program will involve the expenditure of perhaps \$30,000,000. Approximately 35,000 tons of steel will be shipped from this country, but the engines and other equipment will be built in China. Deliveries are to begin six months after the steel is received.

Is Interesting Development.

Officials here regard the contracts as one of the most interesting developments of the war, inevitably destined to bring closer relations to further cement cordial feeling between the United States and the new republic of the Orient. China has been eager to take a greater part in the war, having felt the weight of German tyranny in Germany's efforts to expand in the Far East. Chairman Hurley, of the ship board, in his search of the world for tonnage, found that China was splendidly equipped to make a substantial industrial contribution by building ships.

Old Guard Drill and Business

Session Tomorrow Night
Ardmore Unit No. 1, Old Guard of Oklahoma, will assemble for drill at the courthouse at 8 o'clock tomorrow night. A brief business session will precede the drill.

Big Plant for Birmingham.

Birmingham Ala., July 13.—One hundred and twenty byproduct ovens costing \$5,000,000, will be built in the Birmingham district by the Sloss Sheffield Steel and Iron Company, president J. W. McQueen, of the company has officially announced.

TELEGRAPH, RADIO, CABLE, PHONE TO GOVERNMENT

SENATE, WITHOUT AMENDING, ADOPTS
HOUSE RESOLUTION BY VOTE 46 TO 16

No Democrat Was Against Measure--16 Republicans Cast Negative Vote

Washington, July 13.—Congress tonight granted President Wilson's request for authority to take over and operate telegraph, telephone, cable and radio lines. By a vote of 46 to 16—the minority all Republicans—the senate adopted without amendment the house resolution granting such power for the period of the war.

The resolution will be signed by presiding officers of the senate and house and transmitted Monday to the president.

All attempts to amend or modify the administration measure, which passed the house July 5 by a vote of 221 to 4, were defeated at a session lasting until 9 o'clock tonight. Amendments by Senator Watson of Indiana to except telephone and press wires from the resolution were defeated, 41 to 20 and 39 to 21 respectively.

An amendment by Senator Gore of Oklahoma, Democrat, to limit action regarding telephones to long distance wires, was voted down, while an amendment by Senator Reed of Missouri designed to incur unrestricted public use of wire facilities was twice rejected.

How They Voted.

The roll call on final adoption follows.
For adoption: Democrats: Ashurst, Bankhead, Bennett, Fletcher, Henderson, Hitchcock, Jones (New Mexico), Kendrick, King, Lewis, McKellar, Martin, Myers, Nugent, Overman, Owen, Phelan, Pittman, Pomerene, Ransdell, Reed, Saulsbury, Shafroth, Sheppard, Shields, Simmons, Smith (Arizona), Smith (Georgia), Smith (South Carolina), Swanson, Thomas, Thompson, Trammell, Underwood and Vardaman. Total, 35.

Republicans for adoption: Colt, Curtis, Johnson (California), Jones (Washington), Kenyon, Knox, Lenroot, Nelson, Norris, Poindexter and Sterling. Total, 11.

Total for the resolution, 46.

Against adoption: Democrats: None.

Republicans against adoption: Borah, Brandegee, Fernald, France, Frelinghuysen, Hale, Harding, Kellogg, McCumber, New, Penrose, Sherman, Smith (Michigan), Smoot, Wadsworth and Watson. Total, 16.

Absent and Paired.

Of senators absent and paired, it was announced Senators Beckham, John (South Dakota), McNary, Walsh, Gerry and Gore favored the resolution and Senators Calder and Sutherland were against it.

Senators voting for the Watson amendment to exempt telephone wires from the operation of the resolution were Borah, Brandegee, Curtis, Fernald, France, Frelinghuysen, Hale, Harding, Kellogg, Knox, Lenroot, McCumber, New, Penrose, Sherman, Smith (Michigan), Smoot, Sterling, Wadsworth and Watson.

Those voting to except press wires were Senators Borah, Brandegee, Fernald, France, Frelinghuysen, Hale, Harding, Johnson (California), Kellogg, Lenroot, McCumber, New, Penrose, Pomerene, Reed, Sherman, Smith (Michigan), Smoot, Sterling, Wadsworth and Watson.

Congress was asked to pass the legislation last week, and the president's insistence upon the immediate action upset plans for a long recess Saturday night last. Secretaries Baker and Daniels and Postmaster General Burleson appeared before the house committee to urge action as a military necessity, the war and navy department heads declaring the government should control communication systems to protect military secrets and insure prompt handling of government messages.

The Associated Press.

Adoption of his amendment exempting wires of press bureaus and press associations was urged by Senator Watson of Indiana. Taking up the extent of the service of these organizations, he said the Associated Press has more than 1,100 daily and Sunday newspapers, and 22,000 miles of wire during the day and 30,000 miles at night. Should the resolution pass, he added, there would be nothing to prevent the government from making use of these wires if it was thought the emergency required it. Senator Watson praised the patriotism of the newspapers.

Washington, July 13.—Congress was ready tonight to start its summer vacation Monday. The senate, after passing the telegraph resolution, agreed to suspend important business and take a series of three days' recesses until August 24, beginning Monday. A similar program for the house was blocked late today, but it is expected to go through when that body reconvenes Monday.

Only a few members will remain to attend the sessions twice each week, and outgoing trains tonight carried senators and members of the house departing for their homes or summer resorts.

The vacation plan, it is understood, has the sanction of President Wilson, who called upon congress last week to defer holiday plans to enact the telegraph resolution. The three-day plan was adopted because of the constitutional provision against longer recesses by either house without the consent of the other, and also because congress technically remains in session prepared for any emergency action.

At the suggestion of Senator Smith of Georgia the agreement was modified to provide that if a quorum should be present before August 24 the agreement could be set aside and regular business transacted three days thereafter.

E COMPANY DRILLS TOMORROW NIGHT

E Company, Second regiment, Oklahoma National Guard, will assemble for drill at Convention Hall tomorrow night at 7:30 o'clock.

ARMY TO FRANCE IN HALF TIME AS FIRST PLANNED

INSTEAD OF MILLION MEN
BY JAN. 1, 1919, TWO MILLION
BE ABROAD.

HAVE OWN SUPPLY LINE

Great Project of Establishing
American Army as Right Flank
of Battle Line Will Then Be
Within Sight—Corps Formed.

Washington, June 13.—Reduction by half of the time estimated to put America's first field army in France was disclosed today with the formal announcement by General March that three full army corps had been organized by General Pershing and that the number of soldiers sent overseas now numbered more than 1,100,000.

The eighteen divisions composing the corps, consisting of four regulars, nine National guards and five National army divisional units, probably will compose the first army, which with supplemental army troops such as heavy artillery, will total a million men.

Instead of one field army on January 1, 1919, as originally planned, it now appears probable two such armies will be operating in France by then, backed by full American-built and maintained supply lines. The great project of establishing the American army as the right flank of the battle line will then be within sight.

General March said organization of the first field army had not yet been completed.

SENATORS POSTPONE NATIONAL PROHIBITION

GOES OVER TO AUGUST 26
WILSON MAY OPPOSE
PRESENT MEASURE.

Washington, July 13.—National prohibition legislation was postponed by congress today until August 26, at least.

In arranging for a mid-summer vacation a formal unanimous consent agreement was entered into by the senate to defer until August 26 further consideration of the \$11,000,000 emergency food production bill containing the amendment for "bone dry" war time prohibition, effective New Year's day.

The prohibition advocates secured the definite pledge that the bill shall have right-of-way when the vacation recess period of the senate ends.

The prohibition advocates are confident they have a majority to keep in the bill some kind of a drastic war time prohibition provision soon after the vacation ends. The opponents are hopeful that during the coming weeks there may be developments to defeat or modify the legislation.

Some senators heard during the day that President Wilson may take a hand in the fight next month. This report said he favors a proposal to give him the authority and discretion to finally determine whether prohibition is desirable and is inclined to oppose any action materially reducing internal revenues.

TWELVE HUNDRED OKLAHOMANS TO BE SENT TO CALIFORNIA

Oklahoma City, July 13.—Telegraphic instructions received at the adjutant general's office here today from Provost Marshal General Crowder's office at Washington order the entrainment on August 5 of 1,200 white registrants of Oklahoma physically fit for general military service.

This Oklahoma contingent will go to Camp Fremont, Calif., with the first to go west for training. Most of the men will be taken from Class 1 of last year's registration, but registrants of the class of June 5, 1918, may be voluntarily inducted provided all Class 1 registrants of the 1917 class who are physically fit have been inducted, the order reads.